

# The Newsletter

For Alumni and Friends of the UNMC College of Dentistry's Department of Surgical Specialties

## The Chair Report



Bavitz

This is my second decade of scribing our annual departmental newsletter. I've learned brevity is all good. Conspicuous accomplishments this year include hiring a new full-time board certified endodontist **Dr. Ellen Hahn**. Besides having considerable research acumen, Ellen has connections to mainland China. In fact, she recently traveled there along with a contingent from the medical center in hopes of building bridges (not implants) and possibly developing faculty/student exchanges.

Our very own **Dr. Rick Reinhardt** received the prestigious Burton Borgelt award from the ADA for his mentoring of students and residents, and all of our faculty and residents performed admirably relative to providing compassionate and skilled evidence-based care. Our research and service efforts are documented in the newsletter to boot. It doesn't seem too long ago we acquired, with alums' help, our first CBCT machine. We now are on our second unit which allows for limited "quadrant" views. Our endodontic section will no doubt utilize those detailed images for both research and improved diagnostics, and perio will order more scans for the one or two fixture implant cases.

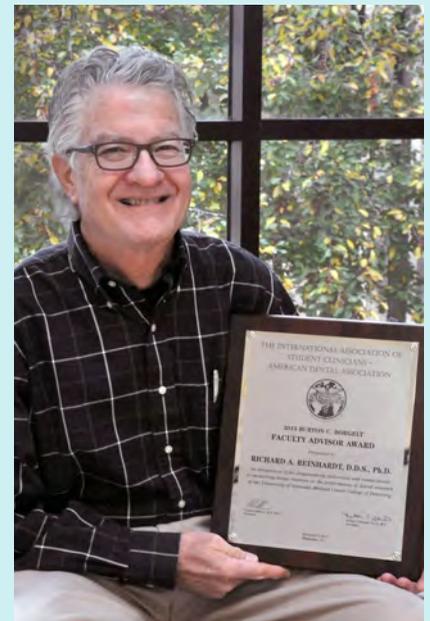
We are treatment planning moving our annual departmental CE/golf/social event from May/June to the fall, probably coinciding with a football weekend. The primary rationale is to draw more of you to Lincoln, and football seems to still sell. Stay tuned for details.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not thank those who have contributed back to the department either monetarily, by giving guest lectures, or by teaching in the clinic. It is all appreciated and allows us to perform pilot research projects, present at national meetings, and acquire new technology. The department is doing some great work and I think we should all be proud to be associated with it. Hope to see or hear back from you soon. 

J. Bruce Bavitz

jbavitz@unmc.edu, 402.472.1314

## Award Winner



Congratulations to **Rick Reinhardt** for receiving the Burton C. Borgelt Faculty Advisor Award from the American Dental Association during the annual meeting in Washington, D.C. 



Do you know this guy? Find out who he is and more on page 11!

# News of the alumni

**Don Echols ('92)** reports selling his practice in Olympia, Wash., but don't mistake that for retirement. He now has a small practice in Longview, Wash., and is also starting a satellite practice in (now read closely) a coastal area in Oregon. Now that's a bit of a commute. He still loves what he's doing and no intention of calling a halt to all that enjoyment. He and wife, SueAnne are blessed with six grandchildren all close by. Don remains very active playing tennis twice a week and skiing Whistler mountain with the family in the winter months. "Forever young..."

**Ed Schoenenberger ('89)** and family just returned from a seven-day Alaska vacation. Additionally, they have a house in Naples, Flor., that is regularly visited in the winter. And why not? Wisconsin is cold in the winter. Ed's son, **Ryan** is now practicing dentistry just down the street from Ed's very active and productive practice. He is so busy that he is now in the market for an associate. Wife, Carla, stays very active with volunteer work in her church and the community.

**Ryan Gifford ('07)** traveled to Lincoln June 26, 2016, to lecture on the Nobel Biocare implant system to the residents and faculty. He and his family also attended the third-year residents' graduation party at the Byarlay home. Ryan enjoys a growing specialty practice in Las Vegas.

**George Robeson ('75)** just completed a renovation and relocation of the office into a huge new building in West Des Moines. Got some quality associates to enlarge the practice. Then, like the intelligent guy he is, he retired. That occurred in February 2015. He and Susi are enjoying the farm life of rural Iowa. RIP (retire in peace).

While on the subject of retirement, we can report hot off the presses that as of June 3, 2016, **Jim Hinrichs ('79)** is in full retirement from the University of Minnesota College of Dentistry. His legacy is set with 14 of his residents in full-time academics, 43 publications and five book chapters. Perfect timing. By the way, wife Linda, hug up the teaching tools to enjoy family and retirement together.

Staying with the class of '79 **John Adcock** has not retired. He has, however, recruited a young smart and threatening associate, so he's able to cut back to 60-70% time. Fitness is still an important part of his life, which keeps him fit to have fun. John is returning to Lincoln this fall to share some nuggets of wisdom with the residents and attend a Husker football game. Now that's a plan. He still lives by the tried-but-true motto, "Never in doubt, often wrong."

**John Lane ('90)** reports that his practice is continuing to grow. His satellite office in Huntsville has become his primary office but continues with his Florence practice as well. Predictably John has asked us to assist in finding an associate for him from our program. We would like to help, but John will have to teach them how to speak "Albamanese." Wife Joan is no longer a hygienist in the practice but still does everything possible to keep John out of trouble.

From central Nebraska (Kearney) **Barry Feldner ('92)** reports his practice is doing so well it's on cruise control. That allows him more time and energy to focus on family and with six children (three girls, then three boys) that takes some powerful focusing. All the kids are doing very well. His oldest girl is a nun and teaching in a parochial school. And middle son is a 152-pound Class B state wrestling champion. Barry still comes back to the department twice a year to spend a day with the residents.

Got a surprising note from **David Okano ('85)** announcing a significant professional change. He has now become a full-time academic periodontist with the new University of Utah in Salt Lake City. The school will graduate its first class in May 2017. He has didactic and clinical responsibilities, all new to him. His practice in Rock Springs, Wyoming will soon be sold. David was reelected to a second term on the AAP Board of Trustees, so he will stay active in organized dentistry for the next three years. He reports that this position is very interesting but challenging. **INI**

## The Newsletter

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This newsletter is produced by the Department of Surgical Specialties, University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Dentistry

### Department Chair:

Dr. J. Bruce Bavitz

### Editorial Assistants:

Ms. Deborah Dalton

### Primary Photographer:

Ms. Peggy Cain

### Design, Layout & Copy Editing:

Mr. Kim R. Theesen

For additional printed copies, submissions, and ideas, contact:

Ms. Deb Dalton  
ddalton@unmc.edu  
402.472.6205

UNMC College of Dentistry  
2170 COD (0757)  
Lincoln NE 68583-0757

[www.unmc.edu/dentistry](http://www.unmc.edu/dentistry)

# Faculty and resident publications/abstracts

**A.D. Bradley**, Y. Zhang, Z. Jia, Z., G. Zhao, X. Wang, L. Pranke, M.D. Schmid, D. Wang, **R.A. Reinhardt**, Effect of simvastatin prodrug on experimental periodontitis. *J. Periodontol* (Epub), 2016.

**N.T. Nguyen, M.R. Byarlay, R.A. Reinhardt**, D.B. Marx, **T.A. Meinberg, W.B. Kaldahl**. Adjunctive non-surgical therapy of inflamed periodontal pockets during maintenance therapy using diode laser: a randomized clinical trial. *J Periodontol* 86:1133-40, 2015.

**R.A. Reinhardt, A.C. Killeen**. Do mobility and occlusal trauma impact periodontal therapy? *Dent Clin North Am* 59:873-883, 2015.

R.M. Sellers, **J.B. Payne**, F. Yu, T.D. LeVan, C. Walker, T.R. Mikuls. TLR-4 Asp299Gly polymorphism may be protective against chronic periodontitis. *J Periodontol Res* 51:203-211, 2016.

S. Li, Y. Yu, Y. Yue, H. Liao, W. Xie, J. Thai, T.R. Mikuls, G.M. Thiele, M.J. Duryee, H. Sayles, **J.B. Payne**, L.W. Klassen, J.R. O'Dell, Z. Zhang, K. Su. Autoantibodies from single circulating plasmablasts react with citrullinated antigens and *Porphyromonas gingivalis* in rheumatoid arthritis. *Arthritis Rheumatol* 68:614-626, 2016.

R.S. Redman, G.S. Kerr, **J.B. Payne**, T.R. Mikuls, H.R. Sayles, J. Huang, K.L. Becker, N.S. Nylén. Salivary and serum procalcitonin and C-reactive protein as biomarkers of periodontitis in United States veterans with osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis. *Biotech Histochem* 91:77-85, 2016.

T.R. Mikuls, **J.B. Payne**, K.D. Deane, G.M. Thiele. Autoimmunity of the lungs and oral mucosa in a multisystem inflammatory disease: the spark that lights the fire in rheumatoid arthritis? *J Allergy Clin Immunol* 137:28-34, 2016.

B.R. England, B.W. Coburn, **J.B. Payne**, G.M. Thiele, T.R. Mikuls. Identifying and treating periodontitis in patients with rheumatoid arthritis. *Int J Clin Rheumatol* 10:409-416, 2015.

A. Schwenzler, X. Jiang, T.R. Mikuls, **J.B. Payne**, H.R. Sayles, A.M. Quirke, B.M. Kessler, R., Fischer, P.J. Venables, K. Lundberg, K.S. Midwood. Identification of an immunodominant peptide from citrullinated tenascin-C as a major target for autoantibodies in rheumatoid arthritis. *Ann Rheum Dis* 2015 Dec 9. pii: annrheumdis-2015-208495. doi: 10.1136/annrheumdis-2015-208495. [Epub ahead of print.]

**J.B. Payne**, L.M. Golub, G.M. Thiele, T.R. Mikuls. The link between periodontitis and rheumatoid arthritis: a periodontist's perspective. *Curr Oral Health Rep* 2:20-29, 2015.

S.M. Gonzalez, **J.B. Payne**, F. Yu, G.M. Thiele, A.R. Erickson, P.G. Johnson, M.J. Schmid, G.W. Cannon, G.S. Kerr, A.M. Reimold, J. Sokolove, W.H. Robinson, T.R. Mikuls. Alveolar bone loss is associated with circulating anti-citrullinated protein antibody (ACPA) in rheumatoid arthritis patients. *J Periodontol* 86:222-231, 2015.

B.W. Coburn, H.R. Sayles, **J.B. Payne**, R.S. Redman, J.C. Markt, M.W. Beatty, G.R. Griffiths, D.J. McGowan, T.R. Mikuls. Performance of self-reported measures for periodontitis in rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis. *J Periodontol* 86:16-26, 2015.

M.D. Darley, D. Saad, S. Haydoura, D. McGowan, **J.B. Payne**, G.W. Cannon, T.R. Mikuls. Spinal epidural abscess following minimally invasive dental examination in a rheumatoid arthritis patient receiving methotrexate, glucocorticoids, and anti-tumor necrosis factor therapy. *J Clin Rheumatol* 21:52-53, 2015.

M. Knudsen, M. Bury, C. Holwegner, A.L. Reinhardt, F. Yuan, Y. Zhang, P. Giannini, D.B. Marx, D. Wang, **R.A. Reinhardt**. Effect of dexamethasone prodrug on inflamed temporomandibular joints in juvenile rats. *Arthritis Res Ther* 17:267, 2015.

C. Holweger, A.L. Reinhardt, M.J. Schmid, D.B. Marx, **R.A. Reinhardt**. Impact of local steroid or statin treatment of experimental temporomandibular joint arthritis on bone growth in young rats. *Am J Orthod Dentofacial Orthop* 147:80-8, 2015.

## Publication Submitted

**A.C. Killeen, J.A. Harn**, L.M. Erickson, F. Yu, **R.A. Reinhardt**. Local minocycline effect on inflammation and clinical attachment during periodontal maintenance: randomized clinical trial. *J Periodontol*, 2015.

## Recent Abstracts

P. Vashisht, **J.B. Payne**, G.M. Thiele, H. Sayles, F. Yu, M.J. Duryee, C.D. Hunter, B. Wiese, A.M. Quirke, P. Venables, T.R. Mikuls. Antibody responses to citrullinated *Porphyromonas gingivalis* peptidylarginine deiminase: associations with disease risk factors and severity in rheumatoid arthritis. *Arthritis Rheumatol* 67 (Suppl):Abstract 518, 2015.

M. Rohr, J.R. O'Dell, A. Danve, H. Sayles, G.M. Thiele, **J.B. Payne**, T.R. Mikuls. Periodontal evaluation is associated with increased likelihood of achieving low disease activity in rheumatoid arthritis with methotrexate. *Arthritis Rheumatol* 67 (Suppl):Abstract 1577, 2015.

B.W. Coburn, K.D. Deane, J.D. Edison, G.M. Thiele, G.M., M.J. Duryee, C.D. Hunter, **J.B. Payne**, F. Yu, H. Sayles, V.M. Holers, J.M. Norris, W.R. Gilliland, J. Sololove, B.H. Robinson, T.R. Mikuls. Antibody to *Porphyromonas gingivalis* in pre-clinical rheumatoid arthritis. *Arthritis Rheumatol* 67 (Suppl):Abstract 520, 2015.

**J.B. Payne**. Is periodontitis an independent risk factor for RA? *J Dent Res* 94 (Spec.Is.):Abstract 1789, 2015.

J.A. Stoner, L.M. Golub, **J.B. Payne**. Probing depth: A poor predictor of clinical attachment level changes. *J Dent Res* 94 (Spec.Is.):Abstract 1670, 2015.

## Recent Presentations

**Bavitz, JB**: "Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office: Hands on with SimMan®," UNMC College of Dentistry, Lincoln, Neb., November 2015.

"Autotransplants, Replants, and Variations on a Coronectomy Theme," Sioux Falls, S.D., September 2015.

"Autotransplants, Replants, and Variations on a Coronectomy Theme," Sioux Falls, S.D., July 2015.

"Vital Root Retention, Coronectomy and Autotransplants," Academy of Prosthodontics, Austin, Texas, May 2015.

[Go to Publications on pg 5](#)

# Straight from the chief

## Your Cornhusker Sports Update



Gerry Tussing

We generally begin our Husker News with the king of sports, football and rightly so. It generates all the resources to support 30 some athletic ventures. However, the news regarding our very successful women's basketball program has the WOW factor this year. Long-time head coach, **Connie Yori**, was "fired" for cause, and so abruptly that it caught Husker Nation totally off guard. No long investigation process occurred. Rather, termination occurred one day and the next she was packing her belongs and was out. Rumor has it that she was abusive to some players whereupon they took their grievances to the athletic director. That was it. Not all the players agreed and vigorously defended their coach, but to no avail. Unfortunately, the player commitments coming into the program has been seriously affected. Also, two top current players have transferred to other Division 1 schools. A new coach was hired very quickly. A former player, **Amy Williams**, coached South Dakota State to the Division II National Championship last year. She has a great personality, pedigree and an enormous task of bringing Nebraska women's basketball back from the fractured state.

Of course the stars of the Husker athletic program are our national championship volleyball team. A great season (32-4, 17-3 Big Ten) was capped off with the NCAA national finals in Omaha. How sweet it was to have 20,000 red clad fans in the arena cheering on their Huskers. And the frosting on the cake was this: we wiped the floor with Texas, winning in straight games. Now what's better than that?



Photo: huskers.com

Want to hear something scary? We will be better next year. True! We only lose two players from this year's team and our recruiting class is tops in the nation. Add to that an all-American volleyball player from another school has transferred to Nebraska this spring. This could really be fun.

College men's baseball is on the rise. No doubt about it, **Coach Darin Erstad** has done two things which appears to have

strengthened the program. One, recruiting is at a very high level of signing quality athletes. These young men want to play for a coach that has a MVP professional pedigree. Second, he is a no nonsense guy who has brought discipline and player responsibility to a new and needed level. They went on a 12-3 run the last month of the season finishing ½ game out of winning the Big Ten regular season. Whereupon, mysteriously they lost two games in the Big Ten tournament and then promptly lost two more games in the NCAA regionals that ended their season. The team is very young and they appear to have lost only three undergrad players to the professional baseball draft. With the quality recruiting that has signed several outstanding high school players, watch out for Husker baseball next year.

There is never much to point to with winning pride with the men's basketball program. There are few newsworthy things that **Coach Tim Miles** can focus on positively. Our best player has decided not to enter the NBA draft. The bad news is that he is transferring to another school to finish his college eligibility. However, for the first time in a five-year coaching tenure at Nebraska, he has secured a big man. Originally from the Congo, he comes to Nebraska by way of Quebec. A big man, 270, and 6'11" with a big name: **Tshimanga**. Don't even try, you won't get it right. Just so long as *he* gets it right.

And now Husker football. Believe it or not after a 6-7 first season under new **Coach Mike Riley**, Husker Nation is expecting a winner. It sounds improbable on the surface, but we are talking possible Big Ten championship, the very least the western division crown. Pre-season has always been heady time for thoughts of great success. Remember the KC Royals? It can happen. However, with a rebuilt defensive line (lost our top two to the NFL draft), an offensive line with only a single established starter, and a quarterback that nearly lead the nation in interceptions. Now where, pray tell, is all the optimism coming from? It's probably arising from the outstanding success the staff is having in recruiting. We have one of the top incoming classes for 2017 with 20 commitments. That's not this year, however, and they probably won't even play their first year. Our recommendation to our alumni is don't bet the farm on championship success for a couple more years. By then Riley should have his recruited players instead of making due with Bo's leftovers. **NI**



The University of Nebraska Athletics Department is deeply saddened to confirm that senior punter **Sam Foltz**, 22, was tragically killed in a car accident on Saturday, July 24, while attending a kicking camp near Waukesha, Wisc. Foltz was a native of Greeley, Nebr., and the son of **Gerald and Jill Foltz**. He was a three-year starter for the Nebraska football team. In 2015, he was voted as the Big Ten Punter of the Year and a first-team All-Big Ten selection. Sam earned his degree in agronomy from UNL in May of 2016.

# More from the Chief

## Gerry Tussing on the new clinic model

The most impactful news this summer is that the College of Dentistry is designing a new clinical model system. A lot of employees, faculty, students and staff have put an enormous amount of thought, time and energy into the new plan. As with any significant change comes apprehension on the part of all parties involved.

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**“The College of Dentistry is now only approximately 20% state funded.”**

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The objective is to create a new plan that will improve our business plan by improving production with an increase of revenue. The College of Dentistry is now only approximately 20% state funded and the rest we must generate in a myriad of sources, clinic income but one source. Not to be lost in the changes in our clinical model is the projected increase in quality learning experience for our students at all levels.

The plan will be implemented with the beginning of the fall semester. We all have a lot of learning and adjusting to do but with the knowledge that this is for a better stronger College of Dentistry. **INI**

## Kudos to our most recent board-certified alumnus!

**Dr. Chad Riggs**  
**Periodontics**  
**Class of 2015**



**Riggs, Bavitz and Bradley strike a pose!**

Publications **continued from pg 3**

**Byarlay, MR:** “Peri-implantitis: Treatment and Maintenance,” (1.5 CE) UNMC College of Dentistry, Dixon Lecture Hall, Lincoln, Neb., October 2015.

“Periodontal and Soft Tissue Grafting Update” Siouland Dental and Implant Study Club, Sioux Falls, S.D., February, 2015.

**Ebke, DJ:** “Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office: Hands On with SimMan®.” UNMC College of Dentistry, Lincoln, Neb., November 2015.

**Killeen, AC:** “Periodontal Inflammation Management,” (1.5 CE) UNMC College of Dentistry, Dixon Lecture Hall, Lincoln, Neb., October 2015.

“Inside the Periodontal Office,” UN-L Introduction to Dentistry, UNL, Lincoln, Neb., October 2015.

“Periodontal Inflammation Management.” Capital City Study Club. Lincoln, Neb., September 2015.

“My Story,” Christian Dental Association, Lincoln, Neb., February 2015.

“Soft Tissue Grafts,” UNMC General Practice Residency Seminar, Omaha, Neb., January 2015.

**Payne, JB:** “Is Periodontitis an Independent Risk Factor for RA?” International Association for Dental Research Annual Meeting, Boston, Mass., March 2015.

“Antiresorptive Drug-related Osteonecrosis of the Jaw,” Capitol City Study Club, Lincoln, Neb., January 2015.

**Reinhardt, RA:** “Oral Models to Test Bone Regenerative Effects of Novel Pharmaceuticals,” Mary and Dick Holland Regenerative Medicine Symposium, Ashland, Neb., April 2015.

“Steroid Route for Experimental Temporomandibular Joint Arthritis Treatment: Bone Growth.” International Association for Dental Research, 93rd General Session, Boston, Mass., March 2015. **INI**

After you’ve read about all the great things happening at the **UNMC College of Dentistry...** help make it even greater.

If you have any questions about charitable gifts, donation, options, pledges or bequests benefitting the surgical specialties programs, please contact:

**Mr. Brook Jobs, Director of Development**  
**1010 Lincoln Mall, Suite 300**  
**Lincoln, NE 68508**  
**402.458.1183, 800.432.3216**  
**brook.jobs@nufoundation.org**



# Postgraduate Periodontics

Program updates from Director Matthew Byarlay



Byarlay

Welcome back to another addition of the fabulous *Surgical Specialties Newsletter*. As I am writing this we are well into a beautiful Nebraska spring (maybe not so beautiful if you suffer from seasonal allergies) and finishing the first summer session in the clinic. I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying the much anticipated warmer weather wherever that might be. It was great to see many of our alumni at the last annual meeting in Orlando and hope to see more of you coming up here in September in San Diego. One of the unique aspects of this program is the ability to send all of the residents to the national meeting each year. The residents gain much insight into the specialty, new advances in technology, and the wide range of procedures and techniques which are practiced today. We, of course, would not be able to do this if it wasn't for your continued support of the program and we truly are appreciative.

As a dental college and graduate program, we are continually looking at ways to improve how we deliver care and teach the residents. The residents have expanded rotations in Omaha at Creighton School of Dentistry and the UNMC General Practice Residency, as well as increased the services they provide at the VA here in Lincoln. We hope that everyone stays in touch with the program and comes to back to visit whenever you are in the area or anytime you feel the need for a Runza.

## Visiting Professors

It is important each year to acknowledge the outstanding group of local periodontists who voluntarily teach in both seminars and in clinic. They are a tremendous asset to the program and we can't thank them enough. These individuals are **Drs. Cathy Alley, Dennis Anderson, Barry Feldner, Daryl Malena, Melissa Lang, John Rutledge, Hoang-Oanh Le, Natalie Frost, Scott Morrison, Stacy Moffenbier, Larry Parrish, Van Sanderfer, Takanari Miyamoto, Rob Cline** and **Pat Kelsey**. The residents and I certainly appreciate these individuals and their commitment to the program.

## Changing of the Guard

Once again, we have to say goodbye to our third-year residents as they embark on a new journey. **Elisabeth** and **Jeff** have been outstanding residents and have bright futures ahead of them. Elisabeth will be heading out west to join a periodontal practice and Jeff will be starting his own practice in Kaysville, Utah. We will all miss them and wish them the best of luck.

We will now be looking forward to the addition of two new residents beginning this July. These individuals are **Jessica Gradoville** and **Erica Jasa**. Jessica is a graduate of the University of Iowa College of Dentistry. She is originally from Iowa but received her undergraduate degree in biochemistry from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Erica is a graduate of UNMC College of Dentistry and the college's hygiene program previous to dental school. She is originally from Nebraska and received her undergraduate degree in biology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. These two are both outstanding individuals and we can't wait for them to join us here. **IN**



**Back row: Dennis Anderson, Aaron Bradley, Matt Byarlay, Stan Harn, Wayne Kaldahl, Chad Riggs, Taka Miyamoto. Middle row: Oanh Le, Natalie Frost, Deb Dalton, Jenny Harn, Janet Guthmiller. Front row: John Rutledge, Cathy Alley, Amy Killeen, Nagamani Narayana. Way off to the left: Marty Killeen.**

## Meet the perio residents



**Elisabeth Easley** (third year) has enjoyed her three years in Lincoln, at least when it wasn't below zero, under tornado warnings, or overly humid. She, her fiancé, and their cats are excited for the new adventures the west coast will bring. She will forever think of Lincoln and how here in Nebraska she is not a *gum* doctor, but rather, a *goom* doctor.



**Jeffery Jensen** (third year) and his wife, Alison, along with their three children (sons, Quinn and Briggs, and daughter, Ella), will be returning to Utah, where he will be starting a practice in Kaysville. Ali and Jeff have enjoyed their time here in Nebraska.

More **Perio Residents** on page 7

Perio Residents from page 6



**Paul Johnson** (second year) was raised in Brookings, S.D. He received his B.S. in biology from South Dakota State University and D.D.S. from the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Dentistry in 2014. Paul is married to his wife, Molly, an ER nurse with the Bryan Hospital system in Lincoln. Paul and Molly enjoy having their dog, Bo, take them on walks around East Campus.



**Art Salinas, Jr.** (second year) was born and raised in McAllen, Texas. He graduated with a B.S. in civil engineering from the University of Texas in 2006 and completed his B.S. in biology from the University of Texas–Pan in 2009. For dental school, Art graduated with his D.D.S. in 2014 from Texas A&M Baylor College of Dentistry. He and his wife, Nicole, have been married for seven years and have identical twin daughters, Madison and MacKenzie, born in March, 2015. Art plans to move back to McAllen where he will open a new practice.



**Zack Krei** (first year) grew up in the small town of Coleridge, Nebr. He received his B.S. in nutrition science from UNL in 2010 and graduated from UNMC College of Dentistry in 2014. Zack enjoys spending time with family and friends on the lake in the summer and has begun his quest to get up on a slalom ski. He also enjoys spending down time in Lincoln working on various woodworking projects.



**Bryan Saunders** (first year) was raised in Harrisonburg, Virginia and received his bachelor's degree in biology from Bridgewater College where he also played baseball. He then received his master's degree in immunology from James Madison University and his D.D.S. from Virginia Commonwealth University. He enjoys hunting, fishing, anything outside and hanging out with friends. **INI**

Giving back to the program

## Perio development fund

Thank you again for giving back to the department. It seems so repetitious each year, but it is so genuinely appreciated by all of us who strive to keep the graduate program moving forward and continuing its relevance in the national arena. We'd like to remind you that your contributions are dedicated monies used exclusively for resident education. That is exhibited in multiple forms. Invited expert guest speakers, research pursuits, resident travel for scholarly events, instruments, and expenditures for which state funds are not available or allowed. Please see the list of the 2015 donors. Your contributions are important to our program. **INI**

|  |  |                        |
|--|--|------------------------|
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| <small>Memo</small>                      |  | <small>Alumnus</small> |

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- Dr. Jerold and Mrs. Richelle Wilde
- Dr. Angela and Mr. Paul Wilson

# Postgraduate Endodontics

Program updates from Director Lane Stephenson



Stephenson

We have two residents this year completing their formal advanced endodontic journey. **Greg Nielsen** is off to Montana soon "to raise him up a crop of dental floss" (Frank Zappa). Not really, he has secured a position that will prove to be an excellent professional opportunity in addition to maintaining a high quality of life in a beautiful area of the country.

**Jaclyn Rivera** is back to Tampa, Fla., where she vows never to wear down coats, wool scarves and Ugg boots again. Well, maybe she'll make an exception for the boots.

Congratulations are in order for our most recent graduates: **Matt Kruszewski** and **Gavyn Smith** both successfully passed the oral portion of the board certification process and are now compiling their case history portfolios for submission. Dr. K has passed all portions of the board and was recognized at the spring meeting in New Orleans!

On the same subject, this year's graduates, **Greg Nielsen** and **Jaclyn Rivera**, have both passed their written board examination.

Our two residents, who start on July 1, met up with our group in San Francisco at the AAE annual session. Both are very excited about the opportunity afforded them to join this endodontic fraternity and got along well with the current residents. Their participation made the meeting that more enjoyable. **Alan Chee** is from San Francisco and has been out of school for a few years working in his family's practice and **Andy Luong** hails from Wichita, Kan. He, too, has been out for a while. We are looking forward to working with both of these young men in their quest for endodontic excellence and board certification.



Hahn

Our newest faculty member, **Chin-Lo (Ellen) Hahn, D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D.**, started with our endodontic section March 1 and hit the ground running. During her short time here, she has prepared a seed grant application for CBCT study for in-house funding. We expect to hear soon regarding its status. Stay tuned.

Dr. Hahn received her endodontic certificate, MS and PhD from Maryland in 1985 and 1989, respectively. She obtained her U.S. D.D.S. while working at UMKC in the early '90s and spent 15 years at Virginia Commonwealth University before following a calling to serve in China for the last nine years. We are very fortunate to have her with us.

Each year, interviews have been occurring earlier and earlier. We are interviewing this year August 25 and 26. This is the same time frame we interviewed last year. Some programs interview as early as July. We have three positions open for the 2018 fall start and are looking forward to meeting this year's applicants. We hope we have a good turn out to choose from and continue the tradition, as **Dr. Fahd Alsalleeh** put it, "of being the best postgraduate endodontic program in Nebraska."

We would like to thank our endodontic volunteer faculty for providing excellent clinic instruction and guidance. They are: **Drs. Chris Pobanz, Patrick Haffey, Jeri Rush, Tom Beeson, Corey Karimjee, Toby Comer, Chris Wieseman, Dave Maixner, Tom Gound, Stephen Pryor, Cliff Leffingwell, Michael Hermsen** and **Jay McConnell**.

Peace, hope, joy, prosperity and good health to you all. 

## Kudos to our most recent board-certified alumnus!

**Dr. Matthew Kruszewski**  
Endodontics  
Class of 2015



### Meet the endo residents



**Jaclyn Rivera** (second year) graduated from the University of Central Florida in 2004. She attended Midwestern University in Phoenix, Ariz., and received her D.M.D. in 2013. She completed a general practice residency at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City and received her GPR certificate in 2014. Dr. Rivera plans to return to the Tampa Bay Area.



**Greg Nielsen** (second year) grew up in a suburb of Denver, Colo. After receiving a B.S. degree from Brigham Young University, Dr. Nielsen was able to return to Colorado for dental school. He practiced for ten years in Las Vegas, Nev., before deciding to specialize. Billings, Mont., is where the Niensens will be making their final home.

More **Endo Residents** on page 9



**Hunter Bennett** (first year) grew up in a suburb of Phoenix, Ariz. After receiving a B.S. degree in business management from Brigham Young University, he was able to return to Arizona for dental school. During his third year while on a dental service trip to the island of Tonga, Dr. Bennett discovered his love and passion for endodontics. In 2015, he received his D.M.D. from Midwestern University and shortly after moved to Lincoln. He and his beautiful wife, Lacy, have two little boys, Riggins and Gibson.



**Dylan Downs** (first year) grew up in Jacksonville, Ill. He completed a seven-year combined B.S.-D.M.D. program at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine. He received his B.S. degree in biology-medical sciences in 2010 and his D.M.D. in

2013. Afterwards, Dylan completed a general practice residency at Meriter Hospital in Madison, Wisc., and received his G.P.R. certificate in 2014. He then went into private practice as an associate dentist in a local group practice in Madison. He is happily married to his wife, Lily, and they have two children: a three-year-old daughter, Elliana, and a son, Teddy, born in May 2016. Upon graduating from the endodontic residency program, he plans to return to practice in the Badger State



**Tate Vanicek** (first year) was raised in Lincoln and graduated from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln in 2010 with a B.S. in biology. He then attended UNMC College of Dentistry, receiving his D.D.S. in 2014. Currently Tate is in the endodontic residency at UNMC. He is married to Jenn. Together

they have a daughter, Madison, and a son, Kalen. He has one more year of residency and plans to enter private practice. 

## Oral surgery fellow



**Wayne Gergens** grew up in Amarillo, Texas. He received his B.S. degree in biochemistry in 2012 and his D.D.S. in 2016, both from Creighton. Wayne wants to pursue a residency program in O.M.S. following completion of his oral surgery internship year. 

|   |   |                |
|---|---|----------------|
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# More news of the alumni: "The Chief"

Gerald Tussing ('67): professor and auto racer



The Chief, 1969

We couldn't resist inserting a few words about the **Dr. Gerry "Chief" Tussing** as he completes 50 years of service to the College of Dentistry, 37 as chair of Periodontics/Surgical Specialties. Many people have been trying to retire him with little success. As a teaching professor, freed from the trying administrative duties, he enjoys coming to the college every day surrounded by bright young minds. Now another bright young mind will join the college this fall. **Collin Bradley Tussing** will be a freshman dental student, so that means at least four more years of teaching are in the offing. The Chief's health is superb with five-day-a-week exercise; this is mandatory to continue the pursuit of his other great passion: auto racing his formula car in wheel-to-wheel combat. **INI**



## A special thank you!



We would also like to again give a special thanks to **Dr. Brad Crump** (class of 2000) for sponsoring the third-year residents **Elisabeth Easley** and **Jeff Jensen** to attend the Southwest Society of Periodontology meeting in Dallas last February. The residents were able to attend CE and interact with residents from other programs in the region. They found the experience very enlightening and enjoyable and we hope to continue our relationship with this organization. Thanks again Dr. Crump! **INI**

## Perio alumni reception

The alumni reception in Orlando was hosted by **Bryan Cochran** ('05) and wife, Julie. The attendance was surprisingly small, especially when most predicted that the "family" draw of Disney World, etc., would bring a large number to the meeting. We'll include some photos to give you a flavor of the celebration. Thank you, Bryan and Julie!



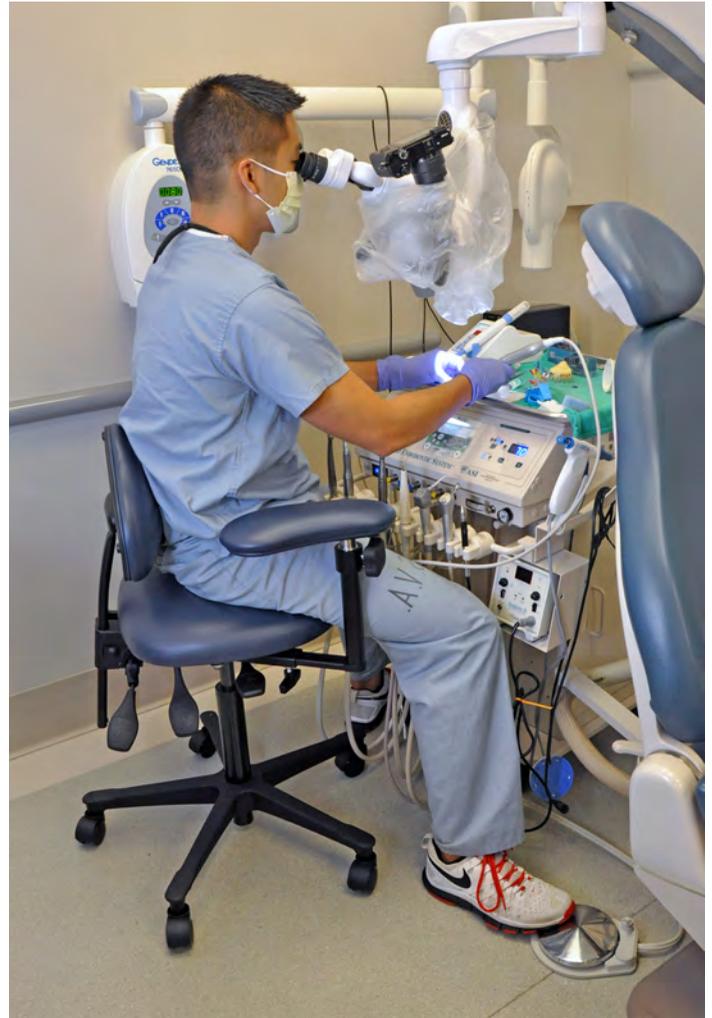
Bryan & Julie Cochran

This year's reception in San Diego will be hosted by the class of 2006, **Mark Lavin** and **Rhonda Preston**. We do hope for a big contingent of Huskers at that alumni gathering. **INI**

# Congratulations!

At the 30th Annual Professionals Day and the 49th Annual Student Scientific Program, our residents placed 1st and 2nd in the post-graduate division. **Jeff Jensen** won first place with his presentation "Effect of Minocycline Microspheres During Two Years of Periodontal Maintenance Therapy: Inflammation Outcomes," faculty mentor: **Dr. Richard Reinhardt**. **Elisabeth Easley** placed second for her research presentation of "The Use of Platelet Rich Fibrin in Pulpal and Periodontal Regeneration," faculty mentor: **Dr. J. Bruce Bavitz**.

Hygiene students **Erica Spanyers** and **Laura Shaw** placed first at the American Dental Hygienists' Association Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh, Penn., on June 9, 2016. Their poster was entitled "A Study Comparing Sharpening Efficiency and Metal Removal Using Diamond-Plated Compared to Ceramic Stones." Their primary mentor was **Dr. Jeffrey Payne**. 🎉



We purchased five Global Microsurgical chairs for the endo post-grad clinic with funds from the endodontic development fund. Thank you, alums!



Drs. Elisabeth Easley and Jeff Jensen (third-year residents)



Erica Spanyers and Laura Shaw, senior dental hygiene

## RETIREMENT

**Susan McCoy** has retired after 10½ years of dedicated service to the department. She and her husband, Dave, decided to spend their time traveling, relaxing and spending hours with their family and friends. We will miss you, Susan! 🎉



Susan and Deb Dalton

Department of Surgical Specialties  
P.O. Box 830740  
Lincoln NE 68583-0740

## LET'S GO GREEN!

Go electronic! We'll send the latest newsletter to your email. Contact **Ms. Deb Dalton** at [ddalton@unmc.edu](mailto:ddalton@unmc.edu). Go to [www.unmc.edu/dentistry](http://www.unmc.edu/dentistry) and get your e-copy in color, along with other UNMC publications.



### FOTO FUNNIES



**Drs. Aaron Bradley and Chad Riggs (perio class of 2015) "paws" for a photo with their newest clients. Bradley and Riggs are taking a chance by opening a chain of periodontal clinics designed specifically for feline patients. The first office of "Purrfect Perio" opened in May of this year. Look for other offices in your town soon. 🐾**

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